

CHEMICAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)

TASK STATEMENT ACTION SHEET

TASK TITLE: Identify, review, and make recommendations on current industry standards and guidelines for hazardous material response organizations that represent best practices for ensuring safe and effective emergency response operations to marine transportation-related chemical spill incidents.

DESCRIPTION OF TASK: As defined in Task Title.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Through Subcommittee meetings, workgroup meetings, and correspondence, identify, review, and make recommendations to CTAC on current industry guidelines that represent best practices for safe and effective emergency response operations to marine transportation-related chemical spill incidents.

RECOMMENDED PRIORITY AND TIME FRAME:

Priority: (highest) 1 2 3 4 5 (lowest)

Date Required: April 2001

Other dates/deadlines/milestones: September 2000 (Short Term Task completion)

COAST GUARD TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE:

LT Claudia Gelzer (202) 267-1983

Commandant (G-MOR-2)
U. S. Coast Guard
2100 Second Street, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20593

Forwarded for Committee consideration.

Signed

R. F. CORBIN
Executive Director

Date forwarded: April 6, 2000

Committee Action: Task accepted by the Committee. Committee established a new Subcommittee to address the issue.

Signed

NEAL S. PLATZER
Chairman

Date: April 11, 2000

CHEMICAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTAC)

TASK STATEMENT

I. TASK TITLE

Identify, review, and make recommendations on current industry standards and guidelines for hazardous material response organizations that represent best practices for ensuring safe and effective emergency response operations to marine transportation-related chemical spill incidents.

II. BACKGROUND

- A. The Coast Guard is currently engaged in a regulatory project that will require vessels and facilities that handle hazardous substances in bulk to develop response plans. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for Hazardous Substance Response Plans for Vessels was published on March 22, 1999 in the Federal Register. A similar NPRM for facilities was published on March 31, 2000 in the Federal Register. A public meeting to hear comments on the proposed vessel regulations was held in Houston, Texas in August, 1999. A similar meeting on the proposed facility regulations is scheduled to be held in May, 2000 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

III. PROBLEM STATEMENT

- A. The Coast Guard does not intend to develop a program for the classification of hazardous substance response organizations as it has for the oil spill response industry. Although the chemical industry is considered to be a technically sophisticated, safety conscious community, hazardous materials response organizations do not appear to be well positioned to conduct emergency response operations. The response community has pointed to the lack of an industry standard as a root cause of this problem. Both the industry and Coast Guard are concerned that there will continue to be inconsistencies in the capability of response teams during chemical spill incidents if no industry standard can be identified and referenced or incorporated in the regulations.

IV. TASKS

Short Term

1. Considering the scope and purpose of the proposed Hazardous Substance Response Plan Regulations for both vessels and facilities, conduct a review of existing chemical incident response standards and guidelines.
2. Identify those standards and guidelines that represent best industry response practices, and merit further evaluation with respect to the Medium Term tasking.

Medium Term

1. Conduct an in-depth review and evaluation of the standards and guidelines identified in Short Term Task 2.
2. Submit recommendations and supporting justification as to which single standard and/or guideline, or combinations of standards and/or guidelines, should be utilized by industry response organizations as a reference standard.

V. ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE TASK

1. Estimated time to complete Short Term tasks: Six months.
2. Estimated time to complete Medium Term tasks: Twelve months.

VI. Recommended qualifications of Subcommittee members:

1. Experience in the storage, transportation, and/or handling and transfer of hazardous substances; and/or
2. Experience in planning and/or response to chemical spill incidents.

VII. Coast Guard technical representative:

LT Claudia Gelzer
Commandant (G-MOR-2)
U. S. Coast Guard
2100 Second Street, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20593

(202) 267-1983
email: cgelzer@comdt.uscg.mil